

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 MC-02 L-03 /062 W

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R 141235Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2979

INFO SECDEF AASHDC

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7884

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, ICE

SUBJECT: F-5 AIRCRAFT FOR KENYA

REF: STATE 189503

1. CARMISH MAAG AND EMBASSY HAVE REVIEWED ALL RECORDS OF COMMUNICTAIONS WITH GOI OFFICIALS ON SUBJECT OF F-5'S FOR KENYA. AT NO TIME DID ANY IRANIAN OFFICIAL MAKE COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE F-5A/B'S USG HOPED TO DELIVER TO KENYA. UNTIL RECEIPT OF SECDEF MESSAGE OF MAY 17(1501Z) WHICH AUTHORIZED US TO REQUEST GOI TO SELL PLANES BACK TO USG AT \$106,000 FOR OCTOBER DELIVERY TO KENYA, ALL DISCUSSIONS WITH GOI, ON WASHINGTON'S INSTRUCTIONS, HAD BEEN EXPLORATORY AND TENTATIVE IN NATURE. WE HAD REPEATEDLY CAUTIONED STATE AND OD THAT THERE WAS NO GOI COMMITMENT, THAT THERE MIGHT BE SHORTAGE OF A-MODELS, AND THAT USG SHOULD APPROACH GOI OFFICIALLY WITH OUR COORDINATED PLAN FOR DISPOSING OF F-5'S BEFORE IRANIANS MADE OTHER PLANS FOR THEM(TEHRAN 3820, 4068 AND 4581).

2. WITH REGARD TO BASIS ON WHICH SPECIFIC F-5'S WERE EARMARKED FOR KENYA IN CARMISH MAAG 131031Z MAY , IN MEMOS OF MARCH 8 AND APRIL 6 TO GENERAL TOUFANIAN, MAAG REQUESTED AVAILABILITY DATES OF MAP AND FMS F-5A/B'S BY TAIL NUMBERS "SO THAT ADEQUATE PLANS MAY BE MADE FOR FUTURE DISPOSITIONS." TOUFANIAN PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION IN MEMO OF APRIL 22. BECAUSE AT THAT TIME WE WERE

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RECEIVING NUMEROUS AND SOMETIMES CONFLICTING MESSAGES ABOUT

USG'S PLANNED DISPOSITION OF AIRCRAFT, MAAG SENT 131031Z LISTING SUGGESTED RECIPIENTS OF INDIVIDUAL AIRCRAFT BY AVAILABILITY DATE IN ATTEMPT TO ENSURE THAT ALL CONCERNED AGENCIES WERE READING FROM SAME SHEET OF MUSIC. THAT MESSAGE MADE PLAIN THAT TAIL NUMBERS AND DESIGNATIONS WERE FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND DID NOT PRECLUDE DIFFERENT DISPOSITION OF AIRCRAFT.

3. AS FOR QUESTION OF WHETHER DIRECT APPROACH TO SHAH MIGHT RESULT IN REVERSAL OF DECISION, WE THINK IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY UNLESS WE REALLY LEANED ON HIM AND WERE PREPARED TO PAY A HIGH POLITICAL COST. SHAH MADE DECISION TO OFFER ADDITIONAL F-5'S TO JORDAN IN RESPONSE TO KING HUSSEIN'S REQUEST. SHAH HIMSELF HAS ALREADY CONSIDERED AND DECIDED AGAINST REQUEST WE MADE ON BASIS OF STATE 174497 THAT 10 PLANES GO TO KENYA INSTEAD. SINCE IIAF NOW PLANS TO USE SOME OF THESE AIRCRAFT FOR ITS OWN PILOT TRAINING UNTIL IT HAS SUFFICIENT F-5E/F'S, IT IS NOT SIMPLY QUESTION OF DECIDING BETWEEN ONE THIRD-COUNTRY RECIPIENT OR ANOTHER FOR REMAINING A/B-MODELS BUT INVOLVES STRIPPING IIAF OF WHAT IT

THINKS IT NEEDS FOR ITSELF.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, ICE, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN07884
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750281-0774
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750851/aaaabsnw.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 189503
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-5 AIRCRAFT FOR KENYA
TAGS: MASS, IR, US, KE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006